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Martijn [NL/NL]; Van Diemenstraat 60, NL-2518 VD The Hague (NL).

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(74) Agent: WUYTS, Koenraad, Maria; Koninklijke KPN N.V., P.O. Box 95321, NL-2509 CH The Hague (NL).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONINKLIJKE KPN N.V. [NL/NL]; Stationsplein 7, 9726 AE Groningen (NL).

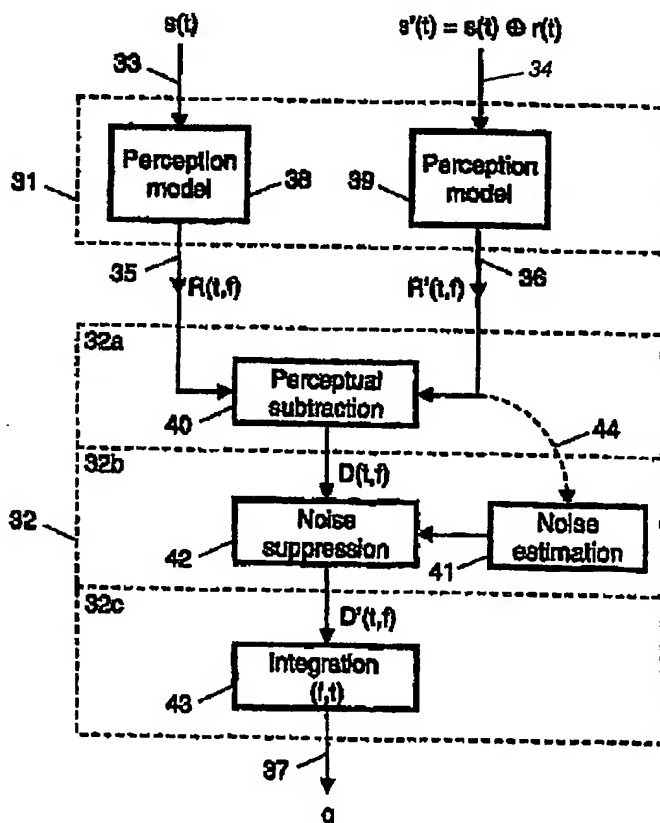
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(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): VAN VUGT, Jeroen,

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(54) Title: MEASURING A TALKING QUALITY OF A COMMUNICATION LINK IN A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Device and method for measuring a talking quality of a communication link in a communications network (10). The device comprises measurement means (22; 31, 36) connected to the communication link, which are arranged to subject a degraded speech signal $s'(t)$ with respect to a reference speech signal $s(t)$ to an objective measurement technique for measuring a perceptual quality of speech signals. Furthermore, the measurement means are arranged for producing a quality signal (q) which represents an estimated value concerning the talking quality degradation. The degraded speech signal comprises a returned signal $r(t)$. The measurement means (22; 31, 36) are arranged to execute the objective measurement technique by modelling masking effects in consequence of noise present in the returned signal. The objective measurement technique comprises the determination of a threshold noise level by determining a local minimum value of the degraded speech signal $s'(t)$.



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